



Westside
Future Fund

Transform Westside Summit

Convene | Communicate | Collaborate

Westside Future Fund
Friday, November 15, 2019



Agenda

7:15AM – 7:20AM
Welcome

John Ahmann
President & CEO
Westside Future Fund

7:20AM – 7:35AM
Opening Devotion

Charlie Brown and the
Westside Singing Ambassadors

7:35AM – 7:55AM
Self Introductions

John Ahmann
President & CEO
Westside Future Fund

7:55 – 8:10AM
Announcements

John Ahmann
President & CEO
Westside Future Fund

8:10AM – 8:45AM
Fireside Chat on
"The One Atlanta
Housing Affordability
Action Plan"

Dan Cathy
CEO
Chick-fil-A

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms
60th Mayor of the City of Atlanta

8:45AM
Q&A

All

8:55AM
Closing Remarks

John Ahmann
President & CEO
Westside Future Fund

Charlie Brown and the
Westside Singing Ambassadors

9:00AM
Meeting Adjourns

WIFI: TGS Guest | Password: tgsvisitor384

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Our Speakers

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms

60th Mayor of the City of Atlanta

Keisha Lance Bottoms is the 60th Mayor of Atlanta.

A daughter of Atlanta, Mayor Bottoms is committed to realizing her vision of One Atlanta – an affordable, resilient and equitable Atlanta – which stands as a model city for both commerce and compassion.

A lifelong public servant, Mayor Bottoms is the only Mayor in Atlanta’s history to have served in all three branches of government, serving as a judge and City Councilmember before being sworn in as Mayor.

Leading with a progressive agenda focused on equity and affordable housing, Mayor Bottoms serves as Chair of the Community Development and Housing Committee for the United States Conference of Mayors.

Among Mayor Bottoms’ notable accomplishments to date include the establishment of the City’s first fully-staffed Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, the appointments of a LGBTQ Affairs Coordinator and a Human Trafficking Fellow, the citywide elimination of cash bail bond, the closure of the Atlanta City Detention Center to ICE detainees, and the rollout of the most far-reaching financial transparency platform in the City’s history – Atlanta’s Open Checkbook.

Under Mayor Bottoms’ leadership, the City of Atlanta led the historically successful staging of Super Bowl LIII, which

included unprecedented community benefits – a \$2.4 million renovation of John F. Kennedy Park on Atlanta’s Westside, more than 20,000 trees planted throughout the community and the seamless coordination of 40 federal, state and local public safety agencies.

A product of Atlanta Public Schools, Mayor Bottoms graduated from Frederick Douglass High School and received her undergraduate degree from Florida A&M University. She earned her Juris Doctorate from Georgia State University College of Law.

An active member of the community, Mayor Bottoms is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, Jack and Jill of America, The Links, Incorporated, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. She has also served on the board of Families First and shares her personal story of adoption and advocates on behalf of adoption and foster care.

Mayor Bottoms is the daughter of Sylvia Robinson and R&B icon Major Lance. She resides in historic Southwest Atlanta with her husband, Derek W. Bottoms, their four children- Lance, Langston, Lennox and Lincoln, and their family dog, Logan.

Dan T. Cathy

CEO, Chick-fil-A

As CEO of one of the nation’s largest family owned businesses, Chick-fil-A’s Dan T. Cathy represents the next generation of leadership for the Atlanta-based fast-food chicken restaurant chain founded by his father, S. Truett Cathy. Eager to incorporate his own skills and talents into the business, Dan has taken an unconventional, yet personally and professionally rewarding approach to Chick-fil-A leadership.

Our Speakers

Charlie Brown

Co-Founder, Westside Singing Ambassadors

Charlie Brown is a native of Macon, GA. He is the co-founder of Westside Singing Ambassadors, a gospel a Capella group. He is also a graduate of the City of Atlanta's workforce construction program.

Mr. Brown's life has been of journey of despair, faith and redemption. God helped him turned his life around from prison inmate to become a talented musician who is giving back to the westside community.

Charlie Brown got involved in the criminal justice system starting at a young age. At age 11, he got in trouble with law enforcement for infractions ranging from truancy to petty theft. By age 13 he was sent to a juvenile detention. This experience and exposure to older, more experienced offenders led him to believe that he too was a real criminal. It pushed him further down a path of criminal activity. At age 27, Mr. Brown said he had reached his "dead end". He was convicted of an armed robbery and would later be sentenced to serve 34 years at a state prison.

However, Brown believes that God has always had a plan. His "dead end" was a new beginning for him to serve others and to make a positive difference. While in prison, he

discovered a love for learning, music and ministry. In 1986 he earned his GED. He also got involved in church ministry as a choir director and lead singer. He ministered to other inmates and found common ground through music.

In 2015, Mr. Brown was paroled to a transition center in Atlanta, GA and he enrolled in workforce training opportunities. In 2017 he joined Testimony, a gospel group and later, in 2019 he co-founded the Westside Singing Ambassadors. The group debuted at a concert to honor the legendary Tiny Fosters & Dem Saints, where they also opened for gospel singer, Ms. Dottie Peoples. He plans to continue to minister to the community through music, especially young people. His motto is "We're not just here singing. We're trying to make a difference."

Mr. Brown is currently employed by the Westside Future Fund as part of the maintenance and beautification crew.

The Westside Singing Ambassadors

The Westside Singing Ambassadors is a vocal trio consisting of three talented musicians who call the Westside home: Charles "Charlie" Brown, Idus "Fatz" Parks, and Elton "Elroy" Ruff.

This dynamic vocal group is a living testimony that lives can be transformed. All three men have spent most of their lives in jail. Their trials and tribulations could have left them resentful and bitter. Instead, they each have chosen to rebuild their lives and to use their musical gifts to give back to their community.

Through the power of music, the trio is using their melodically harmonizing voices and infectious smiles to share an uplifting story of survival and redemption.



Westside
Future Fund

VISION

A community Dr. King would be proud to call home.

MISSION

To advance a compassionate approach to neighborhood revitalization that creates a diverse, mixed-income community, improves the quality of life for current and future residents and elevates the Historic Westside's unique history and culture.

VALUES

Do with the Community, not to the Community

We know that residents are the real experts on the challenges in their community. Therefore, we learn from residents and involve them in all we do.

Be Compassionate

We meet residents where they are in a spirit of empathy and respect.

Have Integrity in Everything

We stand behind all we say and do. We are open, honest, and courageous.

Be Creative

We bring high energy and fresh ideas to tackling the long-standing challenges on the Westside. We're dedicated to trying different approaches to get different results.

Deliver Results

We're committed to driving transformation in the long term, with a focus on measurable outcomes today.



Westside Future Fund

OUR VISION: A COMMUNITY DR. KING WOULD BE PROUD TO CALL HOME.

Westside Future Fund is a nonprofit formed by Atlanta’s public, private and philanthropic partners who believe in the future of Atlanta’s Westside and are committed to helping Historic Westside neighborhoods revitalize and develop into a community Dr. King would be proud to call home.

English Avenue • Vine City • Ashview Heights* • Atlanta University Center

Community Retention

- We’re laser-focused on affordable housing.
- We risk losing residents as market forces take over as the area’s fortunes improve.
- We want current residents to remain in their beloved neighborhoods for years to come, even as market forces raise housing and rental prices as well as taxes.
- We’re raising funds as quickly as possible to buy real estate that will remain deeply affordable.
- So far, we have more than 300 units under control that will serve low-income residents, such as the working poor and seniors living on a fixed income, of which we are very proud.
- Much more is needed, we need everyone’s help.

Role of the Westside Future Fund

With its grounding in community retention and its compassionate approach to revitalization, Westside Future Fund is focused on creating a diverse mixed-income community, improving quality of life, and elevating and celebrating the Historic Westside’s unique history and culture. We are driving a collective effort focused on our four impact strategies with many different impact partners.

Impact Areas



SAFETY AND SECURITY



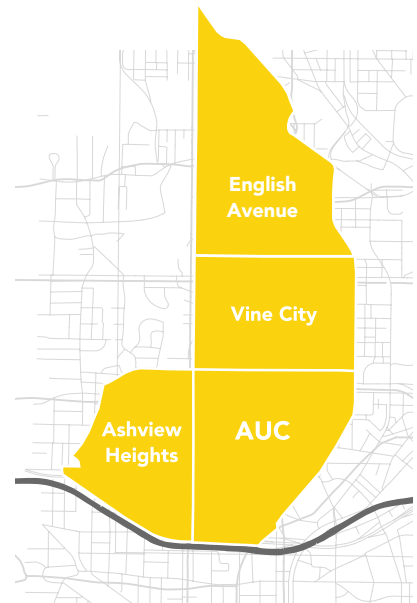
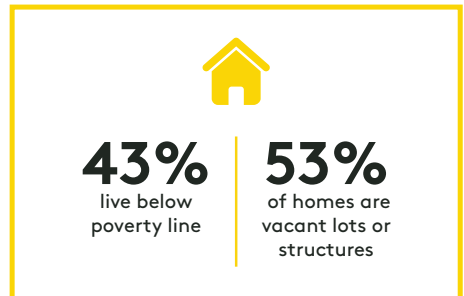
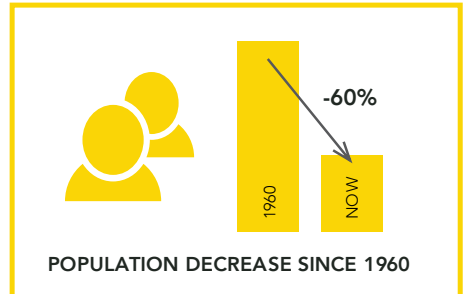
QUALITY, MIXED-INCOME COMMUNITIES (COMMUNITY RETENTION)



CRADLE-TO-CAREER EDUCATION



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS



* Just Us and Booker T. Washington

Our Impact

In addition to amplifying and accelerating the work of our impact partners, we also advance our mission through the development and implementation of several plans, programs and initiatives, including:

Anti-Displacement Tax Fund

An initiative that will pay qualifying homeowners' property tax increases in the English Avenue, Vine City, Ashview Heights and Atlanta University Center communities. The program is designed to help ensure that current homeowners are not displaced due to rising property taxes.

Land-Use Framework Plan

A design and implementation strategy — created in partnership with the City's Department of Planning & Community Development — to revitalize the Westside, building on the good work and extensive community feedback put into previous plans by city officials, partners and community residents.

Transform Westside Summit

Twice-monthly "town hall" meetings created to foster connection, collaboration and communication amongst community members around revitalization efforts.

Westside Neighborhoods Beautification Project

Pilot job training and placement program designed to help Westside residents carve out career paths while cleaning up and beautifying our four target neighborhoods.

Westside Volunteer Corps

Established to create opportunities for individuals from throughout Atlanta to join forces with Westside residents in the revitalization of the historic Westside. Through a variety of volunteer projects, the Corps works to strengthen community nonprofits and expand their impact with a consistent injection of human capital (i.e. volunteers).

Westside Community Data Dashboard

Dedicated to identifying and understanding the needs and opportunities that exist in WFF's four target neighborhoods. Site offers a baseline of community conditions and trends over the past 15 years against which WFF will track future progress.

How to Get Involved



LEARN

Check out our website to learn more.

westsidefuturefund.org



ENGAGE

Attend a Transform Westside Summit or join our Westside Volunteer Corps.

westsidefuturefund.org/volunteer-corps



GIVE

Already convinced? Great! Donate to our efforts.

westsidefuturefund.org/donate



P.O. Box 92273, Atlanta, GA 30314
(404) 793-2670
WestsideFutureFund.org



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[@WFFAtlanta](https://twitter.com/WFFAtlanta)

Progress from the Collective Effort

RODNEY COOK, SR. PARK IN VINE CITY LOCAL YOUTH DESIGN CLIMBING BOULDERS



Two climbing boulders designed by youth from CHRIS 180 and the Arthur M. Blank Family YMCA Center were delivered to the Cook Park site on October 18th. Funding for the installation came from The North Face as part of a collaborative effort with The Trust for Public Land to bring free public climbing boulders to neighborhoods in Atlanta, Denver, Chicago, and New York.

The fabrication of the boulders was the culmination of three separate design sessions with neighborhood youth and volunteer climbers who spoke about the importance of climbing in their lives.

The final session was a workshop in January where climbing volunteers and two NorthFace professional climbers joined two dozen youth at the YMCA's climbing wall to climb, have lunch, and develop their own designs through drawing and modeling clay.

Rubberized resilient surfacing will be installed below the fabricated climbing sculptures in the coming weeks. The boulder fabricator who shaped the structures matched the unique sandstone rock texture of local climbing hotspot, Horse Pens 40.

Cook Park is designed to seamlessly integrate functional engineering features within a programmed park space while providing park amenities to visitors of all ages and abilities with ways to gather, connect and enjoy nature including: a playground, splash pad, aeration fountain, and great lawn, along with a market plaza, multi-purpose courts, and an amphitheater stage.



Progress from the Collective Effort

WESTSIDE VOLUNTEER CORPS AT M. AGNES JONES FALL FESTIVAL



More than 500 students, parents, and community members came out to the M. Agnes Jones Elementary School Fall Festival Nov. 2. The event was supported by volunteers from Chick-fil-A and Morehouse College. Volunteers staffed the concession area and game stations and helped the children with arts and crafts.



UPCOMING EVENTS



For more information and volunteer opportunities, visit volunteer.westsidefuturefund.org

Next Westside Volunteer Corps | Day of Service

Wednesday, December 4th - Senior Luncheon

We need your help setting up and cleaning up after serving lunch to the seniors and playing games with seniors.

If you're interested in joining at the Truly Living Well | Collegetown Farm another time, visit volunteer.westsidefuturefund.org/calendar to view more opportunities every Tuesday and Thursday, and at Lindsay Street Park every second Saturday!

THE WESTSIDE: Your home now... and for years to come



Home on the Westside is part of Westside Future Fund's commitment to help drive equitable, inclusive community retention on the Historic Westside.

We're taking steps to deliver safe, quality housing on the Westside with:

- Affordable 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom rentals
- Newly constructed and renovated homes for purchase and rent-to-own
- Down payment assistance
- Anti-Displacement Tax Fund for legacy homeowners
- Financial coaching and counseling in partnership with On the Rise Financial Center

Learn more about program services and qualification requirements.

Visit: westsidefuturefund.org/homeonthewestside

Call: 470.377.1696

Email: home@westsidefuturefund.org



Westside
Future Fund

The Canty Family, Westside Residents



LYFT PROGRAM OFFERS JOBS ACCESS

From Councilman Antonio Brown...

The ride-sharing company has launched their new Jobs Access Program in more than 35 cities (INCLUDING ATLANTA) that will offer

- Rides to/from job training programs
- Rides to/from job interviews
- Rides to/from the first three weeks of employment, until individuals receive their first paycheck and begin to pay for their own transportation

A recent Oxford study says that commuting time as the single strongest factor in the odds of escaping poverty. Lyft states that 44-percent of their rides start or end in low income areas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE 'JOBS ACCESS PROGRAM'
Visit the following link: <https://blog.lyft.com/jobs-access-program>

Thank you to these partner organizations:

United Service Organization | Goodwill of North Georgia

United Way | National Down Syndrome Society

<https://tinyurl.com/yhktr897>

INDIE GREEN FESTIVAL ATLANTA "WESTSIDE"



NOVEMBER 16
2019

FESTIVAL TIME
12:00NOON - 5:00PM

 491 James P Brawley Dr NW
Atlanta, Ga 30318

Kids Zone

Food Demonstrations

Speakers & Performances

Local Artisans & Vendors

 [indiegreenfest](#) |  [Indie Green Festival](#) |  [www.indiegreenfestival.com](#)

Online Vegan Market [www.Indie-Green-Vegan-Market.myshopify.com](#)



RENTAL UNITS COMING SOON

“Home on the Westside” is Westside Future Fund’s new housing program to support community retention.

LEARN MORE:

westsidefuturefund.org/homeonthewestside



Westside Future Fund

FREE SHUTTLE RIDES for TRANSFORM WESTSIDE SUMMIT ATTENDEES

Westside Future Fund is offering free transportation to and from the Transform Westside Summits via the Cute Shuttle.

The Cute Shuttle will make scheduled stops at these locations on every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month:

At-Promise Center
740 Cameron Madison Alexander Blvd, NW

Hollis Innovation Academy
225 James Brawley Drive, NW

Passenger pickups at these locations will occur every ten minutes between **6:50 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.**

Passenger drop-offs from the Gathering Spot will occur every ten minutes between **9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.**

No registration is required to ride the shuttle. Simply show up at one of the two pickup locations for a ride. To contact Cute Shuttle, call: 470-231-9941



Hello from your Historic Westside neighbor!

Do you have any questions or ideas?

Reach out to Westside Future Fund’s Director of Neighborhood Engagement, Joan Vernon

470-377-6345
joan@westsidefuturefund.org



DID YOU KNOW?

MEALS ON WHEELS DOES HOME REPAIRS!

From small jobs to big projects, MOWA can help you live more comfortably and safely in your home.

We have a program specifically for homeowners who reside within the Westside Tax Allocation District (English Avenue, Vine City and portions of Castleberry Hill).

Contact us at vcox@mowatl.org or 404-351-3889 to see if you are eligible.





Historic Westside Leaders

LEARN MORE: WWW.WESTSIDEFUTUREFUND.ORG



1. Bazoline Estelle Usher
2. Dorothy Bolden
3. Julian Bond
4. Charles F. Palmer
5. W.E.B. DuBois
6. Kathryn Johnston

7. Grace Towns Hamilton
8. Paschal Brothers (James and Robert)
9. Dr. Martin Luther & Coretta Scott King
10. Alonzo Herndon
11. John Hope

Creating the Beloved Community



The end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the Beloved Community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opponents into friends. It is this type of understanding goodwill that will transform the deep gloom of the old age into the exuberant gladness of the new age. It is this love which will bring about miracles in the hearts of men.

Martin Luther King, Jr. from "Facing the Challenge of a New Age," 1956

The coining of the term, "beloved community" is credited to Josiah Royce (1855–1916), a Harvard professor, theologian, and philosopher, who taught at Harvard from the 1880s to 1910s.

Josiah Royce deemed the beloved community the "principle of all principles" and spoke of the beloved community as an ideal, separate from ordinary life, a spiritual community where all those "fully dedicated to the cause of loyalty, truth, and reality itself" were joined. Speaking from a distinctly Christian perspective, he stated that religious communities at their core should embody "the mystery of loving membership in a community." This participation was enacted through deep loyalty to a personal cause that one serves with "all [one's] might and soul and strength."

Royce wrote, "Find your own cause, your interesting, fascinating, personally engrossing cause; serve it with all [one's] might and soul and strength; but so choose your cause and so serve it, that thereby you show forth your loyalty to loyalty, so that because of your choice and service to your cause, there is a maximum of increase of loyalty among your fellow [human beings]."

Since you cannot find the universal and beloved community, create it.

Josiah Royce (1913)

One of Royce's students in the 1890s was W.E.B. Du Bois, who arrived in Atlanta in 1897 to establish a sociology program at Atlanta University and develop the university's curriculum. It is possible W.E.B. Du Bois and others could have discussed the idea of the "beloved community" and its embodiment in the Atlanta University Center and Vine City neighborhoods as early as Du Bois' arrival in Atlanta. Since the late 1860s, white and black educators, black students, and working class white and black residents had been living in the historic Westside.

Dr. King's mentor, Howard Thurman, was also a student of Royce and colleague of W.E.B. Du Bois. He used the term "beloved community" as an inspirational lens "to perceive [in the world] a harmony that transcends all diversities and in which diversity finds its richness and significance." He broadened the concept from Royce's specifically Christian orientation and emphasized the importance of truly integrated communities beyond legal integration and emphasized the importance of a radically nonexclusionary community.

During Thurman's lifetime, the historic Westside served as a nerve center of civil rights activism even as the effects of legal segregation remained in the community.

Community cannot for long feed on itself. It can only flourish with the coming of others from beyond, their unknown and undiscovered brothers and sisters.

Howard Thurman 1971

Dr. King takes the thinking of Royce and Thurman forward with his belief that we can "actualize the Beloved Community." Walter Fluker writes that the "beloved community" is Dr. King's "single, organizing principle of [his] life and thought."

Our goal is to create a beloved community, and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives.

Martin Luther King, Jr., 1966






Transform Westside Summits are made possible through the generosity of the Chick-fil-A Foundation and The Gathering Spot

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVALUABLE SUPPORT
IN MAKING THESE SUMMITS POSSIBLE:



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For bulletin ideas and comments, contact Elizabeth Wilkes at elizabeth@westsidefuturefund.org.